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**PLANNING BOARD
GRAFTON, MA**

November 16, 2015

Town of Grafton
Planning Board
30 Providence Road
Grafton, MA 01519

To Whom It May Concern:

My husband, Ron and I are writing to request a modification of our special permit # SP 2014-7.

Our permit was approved, thank you, September 22, 2014 to allow us to keep livestock (1 horse and 1 companion animal) at our residence at 15 Blanchard Road.

We would now like to request to modify the permit to allow 1 horse and 2 companion animals.

In April, our companion animal, a rescued 6 year old miniature horse surprisingly gave birth to a foal just prior to coming to our home. Nobody knew she was carrying a foal and we were all shocked to find the newborn. When our barn was ready in July, we moved my horse home along with the miniature mother and foal until the baby was old enough to be weaned.

However, as you might expect, the foal has become a part of our family. We have grown very attached to her and cannot imagine parting with her now. She fits in with the others quite nicely and provides comfort and companionship to her mother when I take my horse off the property for weekly trail rides.

As you can see in the attached pictures, both miniature horses (mom is 36" tall and foal is 32" tall) are substantially smaller than my small horse, who herself at 14.2 hands or 4.8' tall just barely makes the cutoff to be called a horse and not a pony.

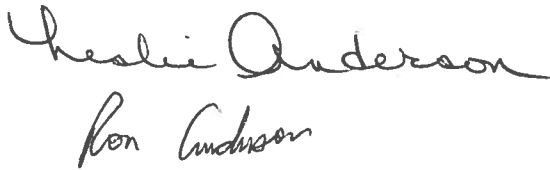
I have attached letters of support from my neighbors and we have more than enough stable and pasture space for the three animals. Our pasture management routine is impeccable with paddock and stalls being cleaned daily and we continue to compost the manure. The waste produced by the additional miniature horse is minimal (comparable to the size of a dog's, yet completely compostable).

Additionally, our original application indicated that the fence was to be set back approximately five feet from the property line. Due to the configuration of the land,

the fence has been installed approximately twenty-five feet from the property line, and the barn is now more centrally located on the property as shown in the attached site plan. This puts greater distance between the abutting neighbors and the horses.

We are very hopeful that you will approve this request. Thank you for your careful consideration.

Sincerely,

The block contains two handwritten signatures. The first signature, 'Leslie Anderson', is written in a cursive script with a large, looping 'L'. The second signature, 'Ron Anderson', is also in cursive, with a smaller, more compact 'R'. Both signatures are written in black ink.

Leslie and Ron Anderson

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